GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1740
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2007
SMUGGLING OF NORKYA VANASPATI FROM THE FOREST
Patil Shri Pratik Prakashbapu

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether smuggling of Norkya Vanaspati from the forests near Shirala in the Sangli district of Maharashtra has came to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the action taken against those found guilty; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to curb the smuggling activities?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) As per the report received from State Forest Department, Maharashtra, smuggling of Norkya Vanaspati from the forests near Shirala in the Sangli district of Maharashtra has been reported.

(b) During April 2005, fifteen Preliminary Offence Reports (PORs) were registered under various sections of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, Indian Forest Act, 1927 and Bombay Forest Rules, 1942. Out of the 15 PORs in seven cases, charge sheets have been filed in the Court. In addition, six trucks, six tractors with trollies, two jeeps, three motorcycles and ten donkeys have also been seized.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to curb the smuggling−

1. Five patrolling units of, two guards and three labourers each were formed to patrol the area round the clock
2. Five gates with locks were installed to prevent movement of vehicles in the area.
3. Regular beat inspections.
4. Strengthening of communication system.